

**Amendment and Response**

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Serial No.: 10/674,174

Confirmation No.: 1946

Filed: 29 September 2003

For: CLOSURE SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

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**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

1. (Currently Amended) A closure system comprising:
  - a base tab comprising an outer edge and first and second major surfaces;
  - a carrier tab comprising first and second major surfaces, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge, the inner edge and the outer edge defining a length of the carrier tab;
  - a fastener component attached to at least one of the first and second major surfaces of the carrier tab;
  - an overlap region in which a portion of the first major surface of the carrier tab faces the second major surface of the base tab such that the outer edge of the base tab is located between the inner and outer edges of the carrier tab; and
  - bonding tape adhesively ~~attached~~ positioned and welded to the second major surface of the base tab adjacent the overlap region, the bonding tape further adhesively attached and welded to the ~~first~~ second major surface of the carrier tab within the overlap region, wherein the inner edge of the carrier tab is located between the bonding tape and the second major surface of the base tab.
2. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein no adhesive is located between the first major surface of the carrier tab and the second major surface of the base tab within the overlap region.
3. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the base tab exhibits elasticity.

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4-6 (Canceled)

7. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the bonding tape comprises a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive facing the base tab and the carrier tab.

8. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the carrier tab is inelastic.

9. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the bonding tape is inelastic.

10. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the base tab comprises an integral portion of a disposable garment.

11. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the fastener component is adhesively attached to the carrier tab.

12. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the fastener component comprises a mechanical fastener component.

13. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the bonding tape is coextensive with a width of the carrier tab as measured transverse to the length of the carrier tab.

14. (Original) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the fastener component is coextensive with a width of the carrier tab as measured transverse to the length of the carrier tab.

15. (Currently Amended) A closure system comprising:  
an elastic base tab comprising an outer edge and first and second major surfaces;

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a carrier tab comprising first and second major surfaces, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge, the inner edge and the outer edge defining a length of the carrier tab, wherein the carrier tab is inelastic;

a fastener component attached to at least one of the first and second major surfaces of the carrier tab;

an overlap region in which a portion of the first major surface of the carrier tab faces the second major surface of the elastic base tab such that the outer edge of the elastic base tab is located between the inner and outer edges of the carrier tab; and

a bonding tape adhesively attached positioned and welded to the second major surface of the elastic base tab adjacent the overlap region, the bonding tape further adhesively attached and welded to the ~~first~~ second major surface of the carrier tab within the overlap region, wherein the inner edge of the carrier tab is located between the bonding tape and the second major surface of the elastic base tab, and further wherein the bonding tape is inelastic.

16-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 1, wherein the first major surface of the carrier tab and the second major surface of the base tab are not attached to each other within the overlap region.

30. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 15, wherein the first major surface of the carrier tab and the second major surface of the base tab are not attached to each other within the overlap region.

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31. (Currently Amended) A closure system comprising:

a base tab comprising an outer edge and first and second major surfaces, wherein at least a portion of the base tab exhibits elasticity;

a carrier tab comprising first and second major surfaces, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge, the inner edge and the outer edge defining a length of the carrier tab;

a fastener component attached to at least one of the first and second major surfaces of the carrier tab;

an overlap region in which a portion of the first major surface of the carrier tab faces the second major surface of the base tab such that the outer edge of the base tab is located between the inner and outer edges of the carrier tab, wherein the first major surface of the carrier tab and the second major surface of the base tab are not attached to each other within the overlap region; and

bonding tape attached to the second major surface of the base tab adjacent the overlap region, the bonding tape further attached to the ~~first~~ second major surface of the carrier tab within the overlap region, wherein the inner edge of the carrier tab is located between the bonding tape and the second major surface of the base tab.

32. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the bonding tape is adhesively attached to the base tab and the carrier tab.

33. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the bonding tape is welded to the base tab and the carrier tab.

34. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the bonding tape is adhesively attached and welded to the base tab and the carrier tab.

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35. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the bonding tape comprises a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive facing the base tab and the carrier tab.

36. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the carrier tab is inelastic.

37. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the bonding tape is inelastic.

38. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the base tab comprises an integral portion of a disposable garment.

39. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the fastener component is adhesively attached to the carrier tab.

40. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the fastener component comprises a mechanical fastener component.

41. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the bonding tape is coextensive with a width of the carrier tab as measured transverse to the length of the carrier tab.

42. (Previously Presented) A closure system according to claim 31, wherein the fastener component is coextensive with a width of the carrier tab as measured transverse to the length of the carrier tab.

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43. (Currently Amended) A closure system comprising:

an elastic base tab comprising an outer edge and first and second major surfaces;

a carrier tab comprising first and second major surfaces, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge, the inner edge and the outer edge defining a length of the carrier tab, wherein the carrier tab is inelastic;

a fastener component attached to at least one of the first and second major surfaces of the carrier tab;

an overlap region in which a portion of the first major surface of the carrier tab faces the second major surface of the elastic base tab such that the outer edge of the elastic base tab is located between the inner and outer edges of the carrier tab, wherein the first major surface of the carrier tab and the second major surface of the base tab are not attached to each other within the overlap region; and

a bonding tape attached to the second major surface of the elastic base tab adjacent the overlap region, the bonding tape further attached to the first second major surface of the carrier tab within the overlap region, wherein the inner edge of the carrier tab is located between the bonding tape and the second major surface of the elastic base tab, and further wherein the bonding tape is inelastic.

44. (New) A closure system comprising:

a base tab comprising an outer edge and first and second major surfaces;

a carrier tab comprising first and second major surfaces, an inner edge, and an opposing outer edge, the inner edge and the outer edge defining a length of the carrier tab;

a fastener component attached to at least one of the first and second major surfaces of the carrier tab;

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an overlap region in which a portion of the first major surface of the carrier tab faces the second major surface of the base tab such that the outer edge of the base tab is located between the inner and outer edges of the carrier tab; and

bonding tape adhesively attached and welded to the second major surface of the base tab adjacent the overlap region, the bonding tape further adhesively attached and welded to the second major surface of the carrier tab within the overlap region, wherein the inner edge of the carrier tab is located between the bonding tape and the second major surface of the base tab, wherein the bonding tape is welded using a welding technique selected from the group consisting of chemical welding, dynamic mechanical welding, and combinations thereof.